



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Office of the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department

Date: December 12, 2012
To: Council Member Lisa Goodman, Chair, Community Development Committee
Referral to: Council Member Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways and Means Committee
Subject: **Emergency Solutions Grant Awards**

Recommendation:

- 1) Approve the following grants totaling \$626,696 for the Emergency Solutions Grant Program:
 - Ascension Place/St Anne's - \$177,400
 - Catholic Charities Hope Street - \$76,608
 - Catholic Charities Housing First - \$71,724
 - MN Council of Churches - \$97,630
 - St Stephen's Human Services - \$203,334
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- 2) Authorize the Neighborhood and Community Relations Director to execute the necessary contracts with the organizations receiving the grants.

Previous Directives: The Emergency Solutions Grant program was included in the City's 2012 Consolidated Plan which was approved by the City Council on April 13, 2012.

Department Information

Prepared by: Howard Blin, Community Engagement Manager Matthew Ayres, Acting Director, Office to End Homelessness
Approved by: David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director _____
Paul Aasen, City Coordinator _____
Presenters in Committee: Howard Blin, Matthew Ayres

Financial Impact

- As noted, the ESG grants were included in the 2012 Consolidated Plan.

Community Impact

City Goals: *A Safe Place to Call Home* – Homelessness eliminated

Supporting Information

The federal Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program is a federally funded program that was established by HUD to address specific housing stability service needs of persons who are homeless or are threatened with homelessness. The funds that are being issued can be used for services similar to those under the Federal Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program, which ended in May of this year. Those services include Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing: both components fund housing relocation and stabilization services (including rental application fees, security deposits, utility deposits or payments, last month's rent and housing search and placement activities). Funds may also be used for short- or medium-term rental assistance for those who are at-risk of becoming homeless or transitioning to stable housing.

A request for proposal was issued on July 7, 2012 to service providers within Minneapolis. A total of ten proposals were received which were reviewed by a committee comprised of the following members:

Voting Members:

Lisa Thornquist, Office to End Homelessness
Judy Paul, Hennepin County Human Services
Kristi Olzeske, Hennepin County Human Services
Elizabeth Hinz, Continuum of Care Committee, Minneapolis Public Schools
Shekina Washington, Continuum of Care Committee
Mike Manhard, Metro-wide Engagement for Shelter & Housing (MESH)
Cherie Shoquist, City of Minneapolis

Non-voting members:

Mark Hendrickson, Hennepin County Housing (Public Works)
Matthew Ayres, Office to End Homelessness
Cate DeVaan, Hennepin County Human Services
Timothy Hastings, Vendor Selection Coordinator, Hennepin County Human Service

The following proposals are recommended for funding:

Ascension Place/St Anne's - \$177,400 - To enhance Ascension Place's Young Family Aftercare Program, which provides intensive case management and support for young families, who have been homeless. Funds will provide for case management, housing application fees, damage deposits, and rental subsidies.

Catholic Charities Hope Street - \$76,608 - For expansion of re-housing services for youth attending Minneapolis high schools. Program will provide housing search/placement, family mediation, medium term rental assistance/security deposits, moving assistance, case management, and independent living skills training.

Catholic Charities Housing First - \$71,724 - For housing and stabilizing homeless adults without children through rapid re-housing program consisting of housing search and placement and assistance support.

MN Council of Churches - \$97,630 - For the Refugee Supportive Housing Network to provide prevention and rapid rehousing for refugee families through shallow rent subsidies and housing stabilization services.

St Stephen's Human Services - \$203,334 - For provision of intensive case management services and rental assistance for high barrier homeless families. Services will include a complete assessment of needs, barriers and strengths, intensive in-person case management, counseling, advocacy and connections to appropriate social services to create a stable housing plan with appropriate self-sufficiency supports.